Export of Alumina

2075. SHRI JAGADISH JANI; Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have "taken any steps to export alumina produced in National Aluminium plant at Damonjodi in Koraput district, Orissa;

(b) if so, the country which is importing alumina from NALCO plant; and

(c) the details of the order placed by that country for aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) NALCO has contracted for export of their surplus production of alumina with North Korea for about 10,000 tonnes and with M|s Hydro Trading SA Lausanue (Switzerland) for about 200,000 tonnes reportedly for Bahrain.

Violation of FERA by M|s Hodex Engineering, Pune

2076. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN. Will the Minister of FINANCE bejrfeased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Special Dirctor of Enforcement Directorate had adjudicated the case of M|s. Hodek En gineering, Pune, under FERA violation;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the M|s. Hodek Engineering, Pune have been found guilty of acquiring foreign exchange worth Rs. 6.50 lakhs outside India; and

(c) whether Government have initiated any action against the Company for recovery of fine imposed on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Special Director of Enforcement had adjudicated the case of M|s. Hodek Engineerig Pvt. Ltd., Pune and found the company guilty of contravention of the provisions of Sec. 8(1) of FERA, 1973 for acquiring and transferring an amount of Rs. 6.50 lakhs (ap-prox.) and imposed a penalty of Rs. 2.60 lakhs.

(c) The penalty was deposited by the Company on 29-1-1988.

Export of Commercial Vehicles

2077. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy to export commercial vehicles in view of the glut in the market;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the countries with which negotiations for their export are in progress; and

(d) what are the details of the recommendations of Abid Hussain Committee in thig respect?

THE MINISTER OF STAT£ IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI); (a) and (b) Commercial vehicles have been identified as a thrust item for exports. A number of measures have been taken to boost export of engineering goods including commercial vehicles. These inter alia include liberalisation of licensing procedures and technology import, a new-regime of Cash Compensatory Support to compensate for the cascading effect of domestic taxation, access to raw materials and consumables at international competitive prices reduction in the interest rates of pre and post shipment credit, interest rebate on new term; loans to units which export more than 25% of their production, assistance from export marketing fund for marketing activities abroad, introduction of new blanket exchange permit scheme to facilitate export promotion activities, grant of replenishment licences, duty drawback etc.

(c) Indian commercial vehicle manufacturers have been selling in Africa